

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

3430 Courthouse Drive

Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

410-313-2077

Raymond S. Wacks, Administrator, Office of Budget rwacks@howardcountymd.gov

FAX 410-313-3390 TDD 410-313-2323

Subject:

Testimony for Council Bill #17-2010

To:

Lonnie Robbins

Chief Administrative Officer

From:

Raymond S. Wacks

Budget Administrator

Date:

May 17, 2010

Council Bill #17–2010 as proposed will amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for fiscal year 2010 to remove the budget condition that was imposed by the County Council in adopting Council Bill #49-2009. That condition required that the expenditures of the Soil Conservation plan review function shall not exceed revenues actually received from the fee designed to cover that cost.

This change is necessary because the Howard Soil Conservation District (District) has informed the Administration that they are not able to comply with this condition without shutting down their plan review operation. As of the latest report submitted to us by the District as of the end of March 2010 it appears that projected expenditures will exceed projected revenues at the end of the year by between \$25,000 and \$30,000.

Since the Administration has no authority to control the hours worked by the employees of the independent District we request that this budget condition be removed because we are not able to enforce it.